

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

White House Talking Points

FROM:

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EXTENSION

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DATE

3 March 1987

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 20, 1987



MEMORANDUM FOR ADMINISTRATION SPOKESMEN

FROM: TOM GIBSON *W*,
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: White House Talking Points

Attached for your information and use are materials that describe the President's competitiveness initiative, including a fact sheet on the Trade, Employment, and Productivity Act of 1987.

If you have any questions concerning these materials, please contact the Office of Public Affairs at 456-7170.

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February 19, 1987

WHITE HOUSE TALKING POINTS

QUEST FOR EXCELLENCE: MAINTAINING AMERICA'S COMPETITIVE EDGE

President Reagan has set a national goal of ensuring American competitive preeminence into the 21st Century. Achieving that goal is the responsibility of every American because every American stands to benefit. He has established 43 initiatives for the Federal government within six priority areas:

1. Increasing investment in human and intellectual capital;
2. Promoting the development of science and technology;
3. Better protecting intellectual property;
4. Enacting essential legal and regulatory reforms;
5. Shaping the international economic environment;
6. Eliminating the budget deficit.

More Growth; More Jobs; Better Skills

- o We must build on the Reagan successes: 13 million new jobs, reinvigorated American education, and creation of training programs that prepare workers for real jobs (JTPA).
- o Businesses, workers, educators and governments, must join in efforts to make the workplace a focus for achievement and continual development. Research and development -- the keys to new products, processes, and jobs -- should be encouraged.

Remove Roadblocks at Home to Unleash America's Competitive Strength Abroad

- o Barriers to business growth and development must be removed. Antitrust laws, liability laws, and export control laws must be changed to enhance, not impede, competitiveness. Protection of new ideas, new products, and new services must be improved.
- o Continuing regulatory relief is essential to eliminate unnecessary government intrusions into the marketplace that needlessly raise the price of our products and services and reduce opportunities for business and workers.

Aggressive Enforcement of Fair Trade Laws; Promote Free Trade and More Opportunities Abroad for American Business

- o Unfair trading practices will continue to be exposed and opposed, and U.S. trade laws will be strengthened to improve our ability to compete.
- o The administration will work in the GATT Uruguay Round to ensure that our competitiveness in agriculture, services, industry, investment and intellectual property is enhanced. International monetary cooperation, reducing the LDC debt problem, and stronger growth by our trading partners should enhance demand for American goods and services.

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

February 19, 1987

THE TRADE, EMPLOYMENT, AND PRODUCTIVITY ACT OF 1987

FACT SHEET

In his sixth State of the Union address, the President established a national goal of ensuring American competitive preeminence into the 21st Century. "It is now time," the President said, "to determine that we should enter the next century having achieved a level of excellence unsurpassed in history."

The Trade, Employment, and Productivity Act of 1987 is the legislative centerpiece of the President's competitiveness initiative. With the President's FY 1988 budget proposal and other proposals, this omnibus legislative package constitutes a six-part program aimed at:

1. Increasing investment in human and intellectual capital;
2. Promoting the development of science and technology;
3. Better protecting intellectual property;
4. Enacting essential legal and regulatory reforms;
5. Shaping the international economic environment; and
6. Eliminating the budget deficit.

The Trade, Employment, and Productivity Act of 1987 contains five titles that fulfill the Federal government's responsibility to do everything possible to promote America's ability to compete.

TITLE I -- INVESTMENT IN HUMAN AND INTELLECTUAL CAPITAL
ACT OF 1987

The President believes that to achieve competitive preeminence, our society must pursue excellence in education. We must also help dislocated workers adapt to changes in our economy and provide economically disadvantaged youth the opportunity to become productive members of our society. Title I of the Trade, Employment, and Productivity Act of 1987 includes:

- A. Education Consolidation and Improvement Amendments Act of 1987. Reauthorizes Chapters 1 and 2 of the Education Consolidation and Improvement Act (ECIA) to target resources on the neediest schools and youngsters; foster greater innovation, experimentation and parental choice; build accountability into the program; and provide incentives and rewards for success.
- B. Bilingual Education Act Amendments of 1987. Reforms Federal bilingual education grants to give school districts greater flexibility in designing and operating programs that address the particular education needs of their limited English proficient students.

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- C. Worker Readjustment Act. Authorizes a new, \$980 million worker adjustment program that will:
- Help an estimated 700,000 additional dislocated workers each year (almost triple the number served under existing programs). The program will cover all dislocated workers, including farmers, not just those demonstrably affected by imports;
 - Offer counseling, job search assistance, basic education and job skill training;
 - Provide training and adjustment opportunities to workers early -- long before they exhaust unemployment benefits; and
 - Replace the Trade Adjustment Assistance and Job Training Partnership Act Title III programs.
- D. AFDC and Summer Youth Employment and Training Amendments of 1987. Creates an \$800 million program under the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) intended to help economically disadvantaged youth become productive adults, open to the opportunities that America provides and returning to society the talents that are critically needed. The program will give communities the option of using JTPA funds now provided for summer jobs for remedial education and skills training for young people receiving assistance under the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program.
- E. Greater Opportunities Through Work Programs Act of 1987. Establishes a new employment and training effort under the AFDC program: Greater Opportunities through Work (GROW). The purpose of this new program is to encourage young teenage parents and children receiving AFDC who lack a high school education to stay in or return to school. Older AFDC recipients will participate in a variety of employment and training activities, including remedial education, determined by each state.
- F. Employment Security Administrative Financing Act of 1987, and
- G. Employment Services Act of 1987. Give States greater flexibility in developing comprehensive approaches to the problems of the unemployed by decentralizing authority, financing, and responsibility for administering the Unemployment Insurance and Employment Service programs.

TITLE II -- NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION AUTHORIZATION ACT

Advancing science and technology is fundamental to U.S. competitiveness. Federal policies must serve three broad objectives:

- o Generating new knowledge in advanced technologies;
- o Swiftly transferring new technologies to the marketplace; and
- o Expanding the Nation's talent base in the sciences and technologies.

To help achieve these objectives, the Trade, Employment, and Productivity Act of 1987 authorizes appropriations for the National Science Foundation, doubling the budgetary commitment to its programs over a five-year period.

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TITLE III -- OMNIBUS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS
IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1987

The President believes it is vital to ensure that we provide adequate protection, both domestically and internationally, to those who create new ideas and and invent new products and services. Title III of the Trade, Employment, and Productivity Act of 1987 includes the following provisions:

- A. Intellectual Property Reform Act of 1987. Statutory changes to:
- Encourage licensing of patented technology by limiting the "patent misuse doctrine" to actual anticompetitive conduct;
 - Increase protection for products resulting from patented processes to the same level as that accorded such products by our major trading partners;
 - Provide a more flexible standard of review under the antitrust laws for intellectual property licensing arrangements and eliminate treble damage recovery for anticompetitive licensing arrangements;
 - Restore the bargaining power of parties contracting to license technology by codifying and clarifying the Supreme Court holding in Lear v. Adkins;
 - Restore the term of patents covering agricultural chemical products and animal drugs up to a maximum of five years to compensate for the period of a patent term lost due to mandatory Federal premarketing regulatory review and testing; and
 - Reduce the cost of defending patent rights by: (1) awarding attorney fees to the winning party in cases of frivolous actions or willful infringement; and (2) requiring challenges to patent validity based on publications to be considered first in an administrative proceeding before going to court unless to do so would not be in the public interest.
- B. Freedom of Information Act Amendments of 1987. Broadens the statutory definition of trade secrets and confidential commercial information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to permit agencies to withhold information if disclosure would be harmful to agency programs or commercial interests. Also provides a new exemption from the FOIA for technical data that may not be exported outside the United States without approval.
- C. Regulation of Commerce in Digital Audio Recording Devices Act of 1987. Provides a technological solution to the potential problem of unauthorized copying of copyrighted material on digital audio tape recorders. Requires that digital audio recording devices include decoder technology that would prohibit recording of copyrighted digital tapes that are coded with an inaudible signal.

TITLE IV -- LEGAL AND REGULATORY REFORMS ACT OF 1987

Outmoded rules and regulations and self-imposed disincentives place America at a disadvantage in the world marketplace. The Trade, Employment, and Productivity Act of 1987 includes a number of proposed legal and regulatory reforms to eliminate these obstacles to competitiveness.

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- A. Product Liability Reform Act of 1987. Reduces the costly product liability insurance spiral that increases the costs of U.S. products and undermines the ability of U.S. manufacturers to develop and market new and innovative products. This title will:
- Retain a fault-based standard of liability;
 - Eliminate joint and several liability except in cases where defendants have acted in concert;
 - Limit compensation for noneconomic damages to a fair and reasonable amount;
 - Provide for periodic, instead of lump sum, payments of damages for future medical care or lost income;
 - Reduce awards in cases where a plaintiff also is compensated by other sources, such as government benefits;
 - Reduce transaction costs by limiting attorneys' contingent fees to reasonable amounts on a sliding scale; and
 - Encourage litigants to resolve more cases out of court.
- B. Antitrust Amendments of 1987. These comprehensive changes are aimed at enhancing the vigor of American businesses, while continuing to protect consumers and firms from monopolies, cartels, and price fixing. These proposals include:
- Amending Section 7 of the Clayton Act to distinguish more clearly between pro-competitive mergers and mergers that would create a significant probability of increased prices to consumers;
 - Limiting private and government antitrust actions to actual (rather than treble) damages, except for damages caused by overcharges or underpayments;
 - Removing unwarranted and cumbersome restrictions on interlocking directorates;
 - Clarifying the application of U.S. antitrust laws in private cases involving international trade; and
 - Requiring that any antitrust claims remaining against other defendants after a partial settlement in a case be appropriately reduced.
- C. Interstate Commerce Commission Sunset Act of 1987. Eliminates economic regulation of surface transportation industries (other than railroads) and terminates the Interstate Commerce Commission on October 1, 1987.
- D. Oil Pipeline Regulatory Reform Act of 1987. Repeals federal rate regulation of those oil pipelines that operate in a competitive market.
- E. Natural Gas Policy Act Amendment of 1987. Provides access to natural gas transportation systems, deregulates natural gas wellhead prices, and repeals natural gas demand restraint provisions of the Fuel Use Act.

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- F. Motor Vehicle Information and Cost Savings Act of 1987. Repeals corporate average fuel economy standards established for automobiles that place American automobile manufacturers at a competitive disadvantage and produce economic distortions.
- G. Export Administration Act Amendments of 1987.
- Provides authority to establish licenses for multiple exports to China, making U.S. exports to China more competitive;
 - Clarifies authority to curtail sales in the U.S. of items controlled for national security purposes to commercial entities that are owned by certain countries;
 - Establishes a deadline of 120 days to complete foreign availability assessments, and a grace period for consultation prior to decontrol;
 - Provides a presumption of license approval to a free world country for a product controlled for national security purposes, if the product is available to the country without effective restriction. USG has 20 days to review (with a 15-day extension possible) before the license is deemed issued, unless the license is denied before then because of an unacceptable risk of diversion;
 - Establishes U.S. objectives for negotiations with COCOM governments including removal of items from the International Control List (ICL) where controls are ineffective or unnecessary;
 - Authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to bar persons (and their affiliates) who have been convicted of violating export control laws from receiving export licenses; and
 - Permits the Secretary of Commerce to deny export privileges for 180-day periods in order to prevent an imminent violation or where necessary to facilitate enforcement of the Export Administration Act (EAA).
- H. Financial Services Regulatory Efficiency Act of 1987. Implements the recommendations of Vice President Bush's Task Force on the Regulation of Financial Services, by thoroughly restructuring the Federal financial services regulatory framework through the creation of a new Federal Banking Agency and other major reforms.

TITLE V -- INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1987

Government can play a key role in enhancing the Nation's competitiveness by shaping the international economic environment in which American knowledge, talent and entrepreneurship can flourish.

- A. Trade Competitiveness Act of 1987.
- Provides negotiating authority for the Uruguay Round of trade negotiations with substantially expanded requirements for consultation with the Congress and the private sector;

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- Strengthens the antidumping law by creating a new, predictable pricing remedy to cover products from non-market economies and tightening the antidumping and countervailing duty laws through new anti-circumvention provisions to prevent evasion of duties;
 - Tightens Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 (relating to unfair trade practices) by establishing a 24-month deadline on dispute settlement cases and requiring coordination with Congress through reports on the commercial effects of Section 301 cases;
 - Establishes reciprocal access to foreign markets as an additional factor for consideration in Section 301 cases;
 - Amends Section 201 of the Trade Act of 1974 (relating to relief from injury caused by imports) to: provide expedited relief for perishable agricultural products; create additional options for relief, including multilateral negotiations and regulatory reform; and clarify that relief can be granted during a recession;
 - Makes International Trade Commission proceedings under Section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (relating to certain unfair trade practices) more effective by eliminating the current requirement to prove injury to a domestic industry when intellectual property infringement is involved;
 - Improves the Export Trading Company Act and establishes an export promotion data system; and
 - Amends Customs user fees for cargo processing operations to reflect more accurately the costs of providing Customs services and to extend these fees beyond the scheduled expiration date.
- B. Business Practices and Records Act of 1987. While ensuring that bribery to gain foreign sales is deterred through criminal sanctions, the proposed statutory changes will eliminate the uncertainties and clarify ambiguities in the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA). Specific reforms include:
- Replacing the "reason to know" standard with a more objective standard, such as "directs or authorizes";
 - Specifying what types of payments should be exempt from the Act; and
 - Clarifying required bookkeeping under the FCPA.

PRIVATE PENSION FUNDING

Separate from the Trade, Employment, and Productivity Act of 1987, the President is proposing legislative action to increase security for workers in their privately provided pensions by allowing employers to withdraw excess assets from pension plans without having to terminate them, and by requiring improved employer funding of underfunded pension plans.

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CONCLUSION

The Trade, Employment, and Productivity Act of 1987 fulfills the Federal role in promoting American competitiveness. All Americans, however, must share responsibility for promoting our ability to compete:

- o Business must work more efficiently, setting high standards of quality; streamlining operations; discarding outmoded systems and management styles; adapting to change and building on the American entrepreneurial tradition.
- o Workers must be enabled to reach their potential by taking advantage of new technologies; investing in education, training and skill improvement; and taking pride in their work.
- o Families, supported by State and local governments, have the greatest responsibility of all -- creating an educational environment that can make our young people productive citizens, able to achieve the best, both spiritually and materially. We must strive for excellence in education.

As the President said in his State of the Union address:

"...[W]e must act as individuals in a quest for excellence that will not be measured by new proposals or billions in new funding. Rather, it involves an expenditure of American spirit and just plain American grit."

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

February 17, 1987

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
DURING SPEECH TO
BUSINESS LEADERS ON
COMPETITIVENESS INITIATIVE

The East Room

2:21 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Well, George and I thank you all very much, and welcome to the White House. Today -- in this, the 200th anniversary year of the writing of the Constitution, and here, in one of America's most historic buildings -- we are gathered, yes, as leaders of government; yes, as business people; yes, as educators; yes, as scientists; yes as all of these but even more, as Americans. We are here to take a step into America's future.

We'll talk today about the 21st century. That seems like the distant future, but in the life of a person, much less the life of this still young nation, the 21st century is but a few moments away.

A child who begins kindergarten this year will graduate from high school in the year 2000. It's not too early to ask what kind of a nation that child will inherit from us. Will we give that child the best education in the world to prepare for leading our country and the world in the next century? While that child is growing up, America's industrial base will be changing.

And here, if his parents find themselves in a shrinking industry, will they have the opportunity to be re-trained for jobs of the future, not those of the past? And when that child grows up, will he find himself in a strong, competitive nation that is a proud leader of a fair, free, and growing world's economy? Or will he or she find themselves in one that has built walls to isolate itself and that, in its isolation, has stagnated and declined?

In the last six years America has once again become the economic wonder of the world, the land of promise to which people everywhere look as a beacon of hope, freedom, and growth. We cut tax rates -- and now all around the world, other nations are taking notice. We cut regulations that stifled economic growth -- and here also, other nations are following us. We've all -- we've done all this, and as a result, we've re-ignited the American flame of opportunity and created more new jobs in the last five years than Europe and Japan combined. Will we now prepare the way to continue this legacy of opportunity into the next decade and into the next century?

These are the questions that we Americans will answer. And let me put my cards right here on the table -- I have a very simple goal. And I believe all Americans share it. Call it competitiveness. Call it a quest for excellence. Call it preparing for the 21st century. In the year 2000, we want America still at the top of the charts, the front of the pack, the head of the class. Yes, in the year 2000, we want America to be number one -- and climbing still for the stars. (Applause.)

In today's world, that's going to take some doing. In the years ahead, we're going to have to work harder and work better. And we're going to have to be clear from the start about what the

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right and wrong paths are. Like the story about Lincoln -- his birthday was last week, so I thought I'd tell you a Lincoln story. (Laughter.)

As a young lawyer, he once had to plead two cases in the same day before the same judge. Both involved the same principle of law. But in one, Lincoln appeared for the defendant and in the other, for the plaintiff. Now you can see how this makes anything above a 50-percent success rate very difficult. (Laughter.) Well, in the morning, Lincoln made an eloquent plea and won his case. Later, he took the opposite side and was arguing just as earnestly. Puzzled, the judge asked why the change of attitude. Well, "Your Honor," said Honest Abe, "I may have been wrong in the morning...but I know I'm right now." (Laughter.)

The quest for excellence that I have in mind is not just a legislative package -- although legislation will play a part. It is not just another government program -- although government has a role. Rather, it's a great national undertaking that will challenge all Americans to be all that they can be, to work together to seek new opportunities, to be the very best in a strong and growing international economy -- an international economy that gives us both the challenge of competition and, as it grows and we grow with it, the promise of a century of prosperity ahead.

To America's business, the quest for excellence will be the challenge to make products more efficiently, to embrace new ideas, better methods of management and new technologies, yes, to make the proudest, most desirable label on more and more products and services around the world -- the label that reads, "Made in America."

To America's workers, the challenge is to be prepared for the new jobs and new skills of the future and to prove in the quality of their work that the pride is indeed back.

To America's educators, the challenge is to prepare our students for this changing world, so that they can write clearly, so that illiteracy among this great and free people becomes a thing of the past and more children read at their level skill or above, so that every high school graduate has a basic understanding of mathematics and science and knows how to work a computer, and so that every graduate knows the meaning of our sacred American heritage. In the last three years, governors, mayors, school boards, and parents around the country have made quality the focus of their reforms. The challenge now is to finish the job -- to make sure that, by the year 2000, America has the best educational system in the world.

Yes, to all of us, the quest for excellence is a challenge to join together in looking to the new world marketplace, not as a source of fear and uncertainty, but in the way Americans have always looked at their challenges, as a great opportunity, as another open frontier for the American spirit, as America's great next adventure.

As America moves toward the 21st century, government also has a role in our great national quest for excellence. We have already taken giant steps. Our tax reform has given us the most incentive-oriented tax system in the world. And already other governments are asking themselves what they can do to catch up with us. Perhaps you saw a newspaper account recently about a German entrepreneur who has built three factories here in America and is building another. These factories make products for export to Latin America and the Far East. Explaining why he was building export factories in America rather than Germany, he told the reporter that the difference was taxes. Because of taxes, he said, "In the United States, I have to earn \$1.8 million in order to put \$1 million in my own reserves. In Germany I have to earn \$4 million to do the same thing."

But as much as our tax reform has done to make America

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more competitive, there is still more to do. This week I'm sending to Congress proposed legislation to ensure that government will contribute its share of America's quest for excellence. Ours is a diverse package -- as diverse as the challenge before us. But diverse though it is, it has one central purpose -- and that is to make certain that, in the years ahead, the door of opportunity and excellence is open to all Americans.

For America's workers, this package will include new efforts for job re-training. Properly prepared workers in our declining industries can be the competitive edge for our rising industries. They are skilled. They know how to perform in the industrial workplace. They have the discipline and dedication to quality that America will need in the marketplace of the next century. We must not let this national treasure go to waste. And that's why our job re-training proposal will target dislocated workers. These are the workers who, in the past, made America the world's leader in industry after industry. We must never forget that they are the key to our future, as well.

Our package also includes training funds for young people who come from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. America will not be able to compete in the world of the next century if some of us are permanently barred from the team. We need every American lending a hand. And that includes those who today are caught in the poverty trap. We must find ways to recruit these people for America's team. They deserve the same opportunities all Americans deserve. And we all need them joining in, grabbing the lifeline with us, and helping to pull America into the future.

America's most competitive edge has always been our scientific and technological creativity. In many respects, we invented the modern world. The light bulb, the telephone, the airplane, the mass production automobile, the computer, the transistor, the semi-conductor -- the list of American inventions that we take for granted is endless. Today we are still a leader in innovation. In communications technology, for example, one expert has put it like this: "The Americans are light years ahead of everyone."

But still we aren't doing enough. In too many industries we have developed the technology, only to see others bring it to the marketplace. Our legislative package will help make the journey from the American laboratory, to the American factory, to the world market, a shorter journey and a more certain one.

Part of our focus will be on federal laboratories, including defense laboratories. These are among the largest and most productive centers of scientific research in the world. But in the past there have been set up roadblocks between what was going on inside and the commercial world outside. That will change. We will encourage scientists working in federal laboratories to patent, license, and commercialize their research. Federal agencies will establish royalty-sharing plans with their scientists. We will recruit science entrepreneurs to act as conduits between the laboratories and business, venture capitalists and universities. We will also encourage exchanges between federal laboratories and private industry, so each can benefit from the other. We will encourage our defense and space programs to continue to spin-off technology to industry and to do it even faster than they have. And we will double the budget of the National Science Foundation over the next five years.

We're also proposing to establish a number of "Science and Technology Centers" around the nation. These will be on university campuses. They will focus on those areas of science that directly contribute to America's economic competitiveness. They will be homes to long-term research in areas such as robotics for automated manufacturing and microelectronics, new material processes, and bio-technology. They will help to ensure that when it comes to

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technological leadership, America in the next century will continue to have the inside edge.

Finally, we cannot retain our technological leadership unless our children have the basic knowledge of science and technology that the 21st century will demand. And that's why we will begin a campaign for scientific literacy. It will include internships in federal labs for promising students and aid to schools on all levels to buy scientific equipment and computers. We will also make available the expertise of top federal scientists to help develop textbooks, software, and lab equipment for our schools and universities. America's natural resources are precious beyond measure, but let us never forget that a greater and more important resource than even these is in the minds of our young people. Our program will help ensure that these young minds are ready for the 21st century.

But all the science and all the education in the world will do us little good if the markets of the world are shrinking. We must continue to promote the expansion of world trade. History has taught us that we cannot become more competitive or enjoy major job growth by restricting imports across-the-board. In 1930, the United States imposed major new tariffs, against the advice of most economists. Three years later, the unemployment rate stood at 25 percent. Free trade is one of the few things almost all economists agree on.

There is developing a great bipartisan consensus that the answer to our trade problems is more trade. As House Speaker Jim Wright said recently, "The solution lies in opening markets to American goods, not in closing our markets to foreign goods."

But, if the greater world trade is to be the launching pad for economic growth in the 21st century, trade must be a two-way street. In the world of the '40s, '50s, and '60s, America was the dominant economic power. We sought to lead the world by example out of the devastation of war through growth-oriented, free trade policies. We've had much success. Europe and Japan have rebuilt. Many developing countries have experienced strong growth. Our fundamental belief in the power of the market remains unquestioned. We will not sit idly by when other countries close their markets to our products, subsidize their exports, or fail to trade fairly.

And that's why these last six years we've taken the strongest actions in American history against unfair trade practices abroad. And that's why we will be asking Congress to strengthen the protections we give patents, copyrights, and trade secrets, so America's intellectual property will be clearly staked out with a sign that reads "no trespassing." And that's why I will be asking Congress for authority to negotiate a new round of trade agreements, to bring down the barriers to world trade all around the world.

Yes, we must help those whom a changing economy has displaced, but we must also never forget that what's at stake here is America's future -- the future for ourselves, our children, and their children into the next decade and into the next century.

How America will approach the 21st century -- that's what we're talking about today -- America's future. This will be a great national discussion of our future, a kind of great national tent meeting, that they used to call a Chautauqua. And together we're going to be part of it. I'm going to be traveling to schools and factories, to laboratories and workplaces all across America. Our great national quest for excellence must begin with each of us thinking and talking about what we can do.

But, today, let me set out a few simple goals for the year 1990 and for the year 2000.

I repeat my challenge that by the year 1990, SAT scores

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should make up half the ground that they have lost. And by the year 2000, let's have them exceed the 1963 record high.

By the year 1990, let's reduce by one-quarter the 40 percent of 13-year-olds below reading at skill level. And by the year 2000, let's have everyone reading at their skill level. And most important, by 1990, let's resolve to have created 8 million more jobs in America. And by the year 2000, let's make it 20 million.

I have lived through a third of American history. I've seen war and depression, peace and prosperity. I've seen the great spirit of the American people build industries and transform the world. But all this time, I have never seen our land hold so much promise as it does today. We are strong as only a free people can be strong. There flows within each of us the heroic blood of pioneers and immigrants. And the greatest adventure men or women can want awaits us -- the adventure of a new century. That century can bring untold wealth, peace, and happiness not only to ourselves but to all mankind. We can lead the way. Our quest for excellence can become the entire world's. Our search for greater competitiveness can be copied in every land. And from this great competition will be built a growing world economy, the one sure answer to hunger and poverty, the one sure guarantor of a bright future for ourselves and the world.

I've asked you here today to join me in that quest. Two hundred years ago, a small group of Americans gathered in Philadelphia to draft a new order for the ages -- the U.S. Constitution. We look back on them now with reverence, because all that we as Americans have been blessed with since that steamy Pennsylvania summer could not have happened without their vision and their courage. They overcame sectional rivalries and parochial interests. They looked to the future not only of our nation but of all mankind, not only for their lifetimes but for centuries to come.

And that is the challenge before us today. As we make America strong, as we work for a free and fair economic constitution for the industrial world, as we improve our education, science, and training, we will be setting ourselves and the entire world on a course to a brighter tomorrow. And generations will look back on us, as we do on the Founding Fathers, and give thanks in the name of God.

Thank you and God bless you.

END

2:41 P.M. EST